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1988/04/20

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04/21/88

We have raised our concerns over the PRC's transfer of IRBM's to Saudi Arabia with the Chinese in Washington and in Beijing. The Secretary raised this matter with then PRC Foreign Minister Wu during his visit to Washington and followed this up with a letter to the Foreign Minister emphasizing our concern both with the implications which Chinese missile transfers have for peace and stability in the region and the broader implications for international stability of transfers of this class of weapons. In his letter, the Secretary called for a dialogue with the PRC on global missile proliferation.

Foreign Minister Wu responded by providing assurances that: 1) China does not sell nuclear weapons to any country including Saudi Arabia and; 2) the CSS-2 missiles they have provided to Saudi Arabia are armed only with conventional and not nuclear warheads. The Foreign Minister repeated Saudi no transfer and no first use assurances, emphasizing that the missiles would be used only in self defense.

The PRC Foreign Minister said he did not see the necessity for special consultations between the US and China on missile proliferation but did not rule out incorporating discussion on this issue into existing bilateral channels. We will continue seeking to engage the PRC in a dialogue on a responsible approach to the problem of missile proliferation.

Drafted:EAP/CM:JRDonovan
0751I 7-6803 04/20/88
Clearance:EAP/CM:JBader
EAP/CM:RWilliams

Tue 1/27/93

SECRET
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ANNOTATED EXCISED COPY FOLLOWS

RELEASED IN PART

B1, A3,A5

NEA DECLASSIFIED

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*Technician
to Closed Sess*

SECRET

*SFAC
04/21/88*

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B1, A3,5

Foreign Minister Wu responded

[Redacted]

The PRC Foreign Minister said

B1,A3,A5

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DECL:OADR

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